Ms. A.6.1.54

Saml May Jr
April 22. 1854

21 Cornhill, Boston,
April 22d. 1854.

Dear Sir;

A bundle of 25 copies of the Decade Pamphlet awaits an opportunity to go to you. If any one of your Syracuse friend is coming this way, it would be well to request him to call & get the bundle, or let us know where we shall send it in the city to his care. On these pamphlets we do not look to be paid by you any more than you receive. Beside, the balance of the collections at Philadelphia, the Mass. A.S. Society appropriated $75., & the Pennsylvania Society $50., for reporting & printing the pamphlet; so that it took nothing *from* the treasury of the *Amn.* Society.

Now I want to say — what you do not need to *have* said — that we ardently desire to see you at the Annual Meeting in New York, May 10-12. Dr. Furness, Theo. Parker, W. Phillips, Lucy Stone, Robt Purvis, & perhaps Dr Chapin (being at his church) will [illegible] speak on our Anniversary platform Wednesday morning, and we want to have them flanked and supported & emphasized by as many of the good & true faces as possible. Then follow the meetings for deliberation & discussion, when your presence will be indispensable. We hope for the very best meeting. I wish you could prevail on some half-dozen good & true Onondaga men & women to accompany you.

Your last to Mr Wallcut spoke of old Mr Stephen Smith being very near his end. Has he departed? I have seen no mention of it.

Our poor blind, widowed, cousin Louisa Wigglesworth has had another & most crushing affliction added to her already full cup; - her beautiful and most anxiously-loved Frank died on Monday last, and was buried on Thursday. - Her oldest boy, Norton, lay very sick at the same time, but was better when I heard last. Louisa is, herself, in poor health. Her bereavements weigh very heavily upon her.

I went to see Cousin Maria May a few days since. You would be pained to see her. Her countenance indicates ~~better~~ more of bodily strength than I supposed her to have, but the paralysis ~~affects~~ has almost entirely deprived her of the power of moving herself, especially her right side. For a long time it rendered her speechless, but she is now able to articulate a few words with an effort, & then indistinctly. It was a sad sight. Her mind & memory on many points seemed perfectly clear & good — on others, it seemed to wander and be lost. Her entire nervous system appears to be completely prostrated, and she both cries & laughs freely, it is said. She ~~only cried~~ did not laugh while we were there, though at times her face brightened up.

I have to thank you for a copy of your discussion with Luther Lee. I had partially perused the records of the same in some of the papers you sent me. Whether I shall ever give it a careful reading, I cannot say. I have lost the interest I once felt in that class of subjects, though, as Mr. Wallcut says, "Anything that Sam'l J. May says, on any subject, must be worth reading." — If I ever take up that subject again, I shall certainly resort first to your pamphlet. — I duly distributed those you sent to various friends. Pray give my best love to Cousin Lucretia, to Charlotte (whose marriage I hear is closely impending), & to the rest of your family. Your affect^e. Cousin

Saml. May Jr —

My wife and Adele send love. — Louisa Alcott sends a great deal of love too. — She is now making us a call at our rooms, where I am writing these last lines.

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